

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Twentieth Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Twentieth Middlesex Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.4% (486) reside in the Twentieth Middlesex Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (92) of Twentieth Middlesex Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 75.9% of admissions from the Twentieth Middlesex Representative District were male and 24% were female.
- Over 63.3% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 88% of admissions were white non-Latino, 2.6% were black non-Latino, 4.5% were Latino, 0.4% were Asian and 4.3% were other racial categories.
- 61.3% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 12.1% were married, and 14.6% reported not to be married now.
- 30.2% of admissions had less than high school education, 48.9% completed high school, and 20.7% had more than high school education.
- 30.6% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 11.7% of those admitted were homeless.
- 10.2% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Twentieth Middlesex Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Twentieth Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	388	318	123	143	108	88	61
FY '96	439	380	136	151	105	113	80
FY '97	583	500	182	184	157	184	154
FY '98	472	373	124	147	82	171	129
FY '99	419	309	148	111	63	156	124
FY '00	442	326	143	137	60	181	136
FY '01	486	362	122	123	70	222	160

- Since FY 1995, residents of Twentieth Middlesex Representative District reported a decrease in crack use, but a steady rise in heroin use. Crack use decreased by 35%, while heroin use increased by 152%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting alcohol use increased by 13%, while marijuana use remained steady, and, cocaine use decreased by 13%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Twentieth Middlesex Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	44.6%	41.7%	4.7%	3.2%	1.6%
State	46.4%	35.9%	6.5%	3.8%	3.4%

- While cocaine as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, heroin as a primary drug was higher, and, alcohol, marijuana and crack was lower within your District.